IAP16 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 SEP 2006

Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 09812.0134

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re U.S. National Stage Application for PCT/JP2005/004839 for: |) |
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| Steffen GUTMANN et al. |) 2628) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned |
| Application No.: Not Yet Assigned |) Maurice McDowell) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned |
| Filed: September 18, 2006 |) Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned |
| For: Method and Apparatus for Detecting Plane, and Robot Apparatus Having Apparatus for Detecting Plane (As Amended) Commissioner for Patents |) |
| P.O. Box 1450 | |
| Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | |

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed patent and non-patent documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

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The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

- 1. Xiaoyi JIANG et al, "Fast Segmentation of Range Images Into Planar Regions by Scan Line Grouping", Machine Vision and Applications, 1994, Vo. 7, No. 2, pages 115 to 122. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 3 of the specification of the present application.
 - 2. JP 07-93541
 - 3 JP 2001-62566

An English-language abstract of documents 2 and 3 is enclosed.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the non-English documents, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Japanese Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take

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appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 18, 2006

David W. Hill Reg. No. 28,220

Enclosures DWH/FPD/alp

ERNEST F. CHAPMAN Reg. No. 25,961

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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Filing Date Filing Date Filing Date September 18, 2006 Steffen GUTMANN et al. Art Unit Examiner Name | IDS Form PTO/S | SB/08: Substitute for for | m 1449A/PTO | | Complete if Known 5931 | |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) First Named Inventor Steffen GUTMANN et al. Art Unit Net Vet Assigned 2628 Examiner Name Name Maurice McDown | | | | | Application Number | Not Yet Assigned |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) First Named Inventor Art Unit Examiner Name Steffen GUTMANN et al. Web Yeb Assigned 2628 Examiner Name Maurice McDow | INF | ORMATION D | ISCLOSU | IRF | Filing Date | September 18, 2006 |
| (Use as many sheets as necessary) Examiner Name Ant Unit Examiner Name Ant Unit History Terrosigned 2020 McDow | | | | | First Named Inventor | ***** |
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| The state of the s | | (Use as many sheets | as necessary) | | Examiner Name | Not You Assigned Maurice McDowell |
| Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number 09812.0134 | Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 09812.0134 |

| | U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|--|--|
| Examiner | Cite | Document Number | Issue or | Name of Patentee or | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where | | |
| Initials No.1 | No.' | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited Document | Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | | |
| /M.M. | / | US-5,546,476 | 08-13-1996 | Mitaka et al. | | | |
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Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

| | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Translation ⁶ | |
| /M.M | / | JP 07-93541 | 04-07-1995 | MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC WORKS, LTD. | | Abstract | |
| /M.M | / | JP 2001-62566 | 03-13-2001 | KOBE STEEL, LTD. | | Abstract | |

| | NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ | | | |
| /M.M./ | | Xiaoyi JIANG et al., "Fast Segmentation of Range Images Into Planar Regions by Scan Line Grouping:, Machine Vision and Applications, 1994, Vol. 7, No. 2, pages 115 to 122 | Yes | | | |
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| Examiner | /Maurice Mcdowell, Jr/ | Date | 12/13/2008 |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.